Delay in delivery of telegrams

2255. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are reports of inordinate delay in the delivery of talegrams to its destination; and

(b) if so, what measures are being taken to ensure that telegraphic messages are delivered to the addresses without any delay?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following measures are taken to ensure that telegrams are delivered to addresses within a reasonable time:—

(1) Modernisation of Telegraph Network through Store & Forward and Electronic Store and Forward Gentex System to reduce delay in transits;

(2) Action taken against officials responsible for delay;

(3) Rules and procedures are reviewed from time to time to minimise delays;

(4) The disposal of telegrams are watched by Divisional & Circle level officers as well as in the Headquarter office of Departmen of Telecommunications.

Replacement of old telephone exchanges

2216. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the telephone exchanges in the country have out lived their normal lives, and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what steps Government propose to take for the replacement of these exchanges?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The equipment as detailed below has completed 25 years of service which is prescribed as the normal life of an exchange, as on 1.4.1958.

	Lines
Bombay	19200
Delhi	8000
Caluctta	63700
Madras	9100
Ahmedabad	5900
Bangalore	7000
Hyderabad	6800
Pune	2000
Kanpur	6000
Agra	2500
Amritsar	3000
Baroda	1200
Coimbatore	2500
Indore	2000
Jallandhar	1500
Nagpur	5000
Patna	6000
Lucknow	5500
Trivandrum	3400
Allahabad	1400
Dhanbad	550
Jammu	1000
Alleppey	1000
Kottayam	1200
Quilon	1200
Simla	1640
	168290

Replacements for these 1,68,290 lines have been planned during the 7th Plan period.